Docket No. AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER SY9-195 Application No. Filing Date Examiner Art Unit 2881 10/700300-Conf. #2702 October 31, 2003 K. Fernandez Applicant(s): Marvin L. VESTAL et al. Invention: ION SOURCE AND METHODS FOR MALDI MASS SPECTROMETRY TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. **CLAIMS AS AMENDED** Claims Highest Remaining Number Number After **Previously Extra Claims Amendment** Paid Present Rate **Total Claims** 36 65 0 х Independent 3 7 0 **Claims** Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) Other fee (please specify): TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: 0.00 Small Entity x Large Entity x No additional fee is required for this amendment. Please charge Deposit Account No. in the amount of \$ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. A check in the amount of \$ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. 12-0080 × The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. x | Credit any overpayment. Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17. February 23, 2005 Dated: Michael J. Bastian, Attorney Reg. No.: 47,411 LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

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(Michael J. Bastian, Ph.D.)

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ichael J. Bastian, Ph.D.)

Docket No.: SY9-195

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Patent Application of: Marvin L. Vestal et al.

Application No.: 10/700300

Confirmation No.: 2702

Filed: October 31, 2003

Art Unit: 2881

For: ION SOURCE AND METHODS FOR MALDI

MASS SPECTROMETRY

Examiner: K. Fernandez

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 20, 2004, ("the Office Action"), Applicant submits the following Amendment in Response to Non-final Office Action ("this Response"). Reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.